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Coordination, programme and other questions: calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields

Letter dated 27 June 2017 from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences to the President of the Economic and Social Council

In response to the invitation of the Economic and Social Council set forth in its decision 1988/103, the Committee on Conferences met on 21 June 2017 to review the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2018 and 2019 (E/2017/L.20) and welcomed the opportunity to provide, as appropriate, its recommendations thereon to the Council.

In introducing the provisional calendar, the Secretary of the Committee on Conferences drew the attention of the Committee to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 53/208 A and paragraphs 5 to 9 of Assembly resolution 69/250, in which it was decided that United Nations bodies should be invited to avoid holding meetings on Orthodox Christmas, Orthodox Good Friday, the Day of Vesak, Yom Kippur, Diwali and Gurpurab and that those arrangements should be taken into account when drafting future calendars of conferences and meetings. Regarding the Day of Vesak, one Committee member commented that the listed date in 2018 may need adjustment. I understand that the dates listed as tentative are subject to adjustment once confirmed. Regarding the two official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, once their exact dates become known, as with other official United Nations holidays, no official meetings will be scheduled on those days.

The Committee decided to recommend to the Council the adoption of the provisional calendar for 2018 and 2019.

(*Signed*) Lewis **Brown**
Chair of the Committee on Conferences

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